MARVEL COMICS
DEAD POOL
#52
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TURN ON THE EVENING NEWS ANY DAY OF THE WEEK AND YOU'LL WITNESS A WHOLE RANGE OF HORRIFIC EVENTS GOING ON AROUND THE WORLD...
...THREE HUNDRED DEAD IN A PLANE CRASH HERE, TEN THOUSAND KILLED IN AN EARTHQUAKE THERE...
...AND WITH ALL THESE PEOPLE DYING, THE ONLY THING THAT GETS US TO LOOK UP FROM OUR TAKEOUT FOOD IS WHAT JENNIFER LOPEZ IS WEARING TO THIS YEAR'S OSCARS...
...OR WHAT RAP STAR WAS JUST ARRESTED FOR LOOKING THE WRONG WAY.
WHAT DOES THAT SAY ABOUT HUMANITY? WHAT DOES THAT CHANGE IN THE BIG PICTURE OF THINGS?
HOW ARE THE CHILDREN OF TODAY GOING TO PROCESS THIS INFORMATION AND TURN IT INTO SOMETHING POSITIVE FOR THE FUTURE?
Hunh. DON'T ASK ME. I'M JUST A SPANDEX WEARING GUN-FOR-HIRE.
I'M JUST WADE WILSON, YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBOR-HOOD DEADPOOL.
TALK
OF THE
TOWN

JIMMY PALMIOTTI AND BUDDY SCALERA STORY

ANTHONY WILLIAMS PENCILS
ANDY LANNING INKS

SHARPEFONT LETTERS
VLM COLORS

MIKE RAICHT ASSISTANT EDITOR

MIKE MARTS EDITOR

JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF

SHROUDED IN STOLEN IDENTITIES AND CLANDESTINE SECRETS, THE MERC-WITH-A-MOUTH IS A MAN OF MYSTERY. HERO? VILLAIN? SOCIOPATH? DEADPOOL MAKES HIS OWN RULES AND PLAYS BY NOBODY'S GAME. HE IS AN AGENT OF CHAOS CONFINED TO A WORLD OF CONSTRICTING ORDER!

STAN LEE PRESENTS:

DEADPOOL

THE RITZ, NYC.
YES! THANK YOU! OKAY, WE'RE GONNA END TONIGHT WITH MY FAVORITE FROM THE NEW ALBUM... "DEMOLISH MY HEART"!
WHOOOOO! MORE DICK!
DO IT!
YEAH, JUST DO IT SO WE CAN GET OUT OF HERE ALREADY...
MARY, CHILL!
I LOVE DICK!
YEAH, HE'S A REAL KILLER, GRACE.
COME ON, DON'T MAKE FUN. I NEVER THOUGHT WE'D GET THIS CLOSE TO HIM. PEOPLE KILL FOR THESE TICKETS!
YEAH, WELL, HOW DO YOU THINK I GOT THEM, SILLY?
AND THIS ONE GOES OUT TO THOSE TWO BRITTANY-LOOKING TWINS...WHO TRULY ARE KILLER IN MY BOOK.
DOES HE MEAN LIKE MARY? MARY? I THINK HE MEANS LIKE!
GREAT. IT'S MY LIFE'S DREAM TO BE COMPARED TO BRITNEY. SIGH.
MARY, COME ON! HE'S ASKING US TO GO BACKSTAGE!
BIG WHOOP. DON'T GO ALL GROUPIE ON ME, GRACE. LET'S STICK TO THE JOB.

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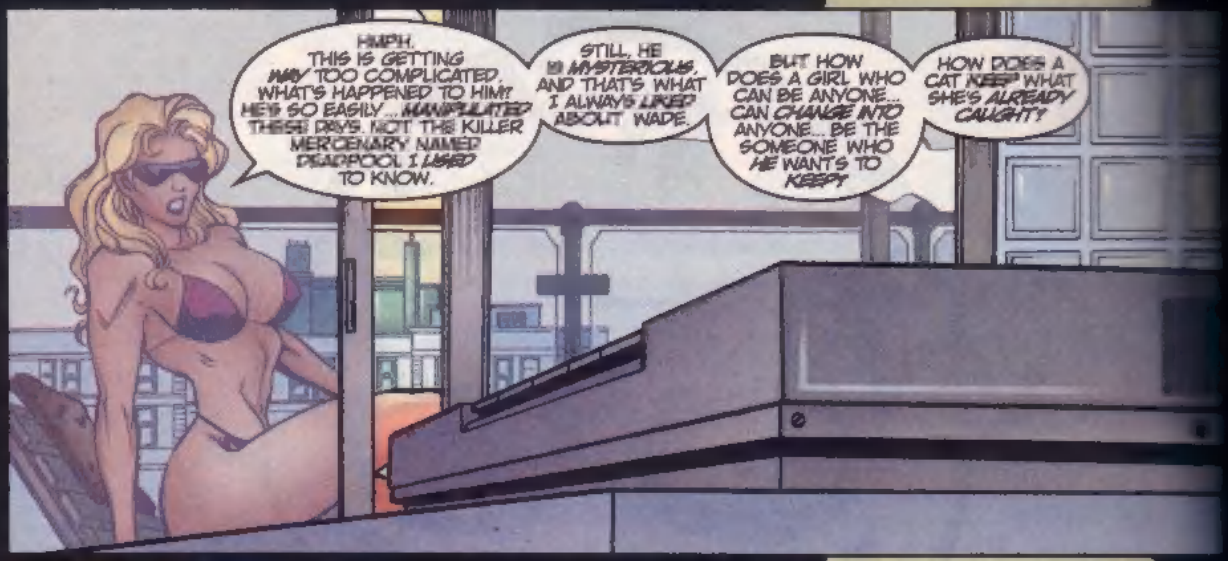
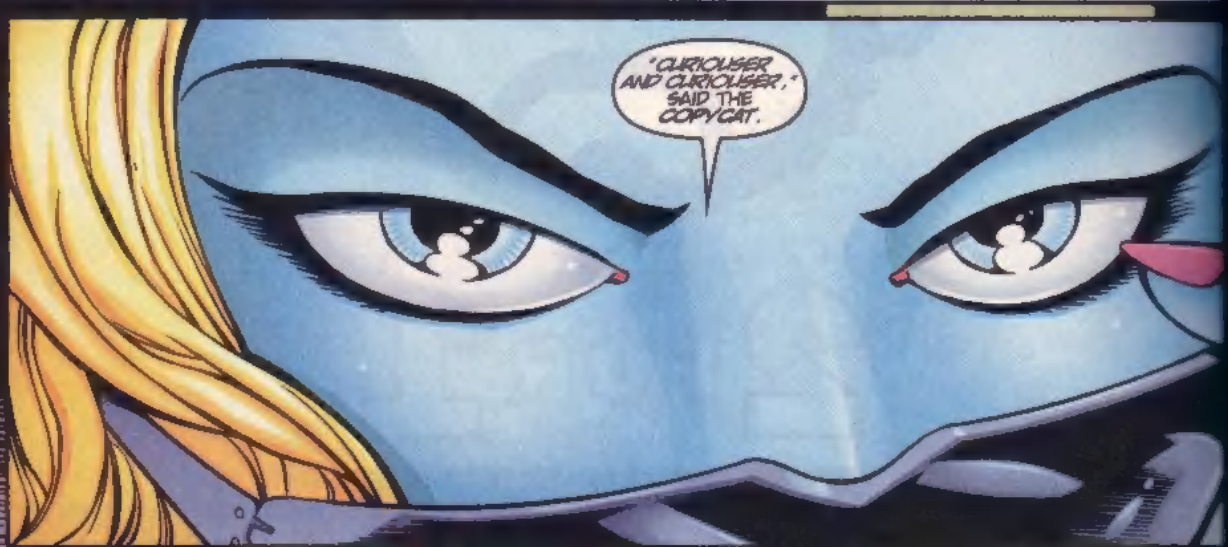
TWO BACKSTAGE PASSES, THREE GIN AND TONICS, AND SOME ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES LATER...
SO YOUR NAME ISN'T DICK? WHAT'S UP WITH THAT? THEN WHY'D YOU NAME YOUR BAND "KILLER DICK"?
IT'S A SECRET.
Mmmm. SECRETS MAKE ME HOT.
COOL. SO WANNA SWAP SECRETS?
SURE! HERE'S A SECRET... MY TWIN SISTER MARY AND I DO EVERYTHING TOGETHER, AND I MEAN EVERYTHING.
OH, MAN. KILLAH, SO YOU GONNA SHOW ME?
VIDEO DVD
LINDY'S
OH, WE'LL SEE... BUT FIRST I THINK YOU OWE ME A SECRET.
FAIR 'NUFF. A LOTTA PEOPLE SAY MY STAGE NAME IS PRETTY ACCURATE. IN FACT MY WIFE SAYS THAT--
YOUR WIFE? YOU'RE MARRIED?
Uh, Y-YEAH... WITH THREE KIDS. THAT A PROBLEM?
"PROBLEM"? YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
B-BUT WAIT... YOU WERE GOING TO SHOW ME HOW YOU AND YOUR SISTER--
THIS SUCKS. THIS REALLY SUCKS.
JUST HEARD THE BAD NEWS, DICK.
WIRRRRRRRRRRRR
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING DRIVING THE LIMO? WHERE'S CHUCK?!
CHUCK JUST GOT SOME BAD NEWS, TOO. WENT STRAIGHT TO HIS HEAD.
DOESN'T MAKE FOR MUCH GOOD NEWS, NOW, DOES IT?
K-CHK

PROSPECT PARK, BROOKLYN.
MON-O-MON, FOLKS BE KILLIN' EACH OTHER OVER DA STRANGEST THINGS.
MAKES ME GLAD TO BE LIVIN' IN DA DESERTED SECTION O' TOWN. ALL BRICKS AN' BIRDS. NO YUPPIES NO TIME SOON.
DON'T BET ON IT, MR. JAMBO... WITH RENTS IN MANHATTAN AND ALL...
MR. KELLY, NICE O' YOU TO STOP BY AN HOUR LATE.
SORRY, MAN. WAS HELPING A SCHIZO FRIEND WITH SOME IDENTITY PROBLEMS.
YAH, YAH. SPEAKIN' OF PROBLEMS, HOW'S MINE COMING?
YOU HAVE A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR ME?
YOU BET. ALL OF IT RIGHT HERE.
ALL?
SHOULD TAKE CARE OF THE REST OF THE PAYMENTS FOR MY WAREHOUSE.
YOU'LL ALSO FIND A LITTLE BONUS FOR YOURSELF... FOR KEEPING EVERYTHING VERY LOW PROFILE.
EY, DIS CASE IS VERY LIGHT, MR. KELLY... YOU WOULDN'T BE PULLIN' NO FAST ONE ON YOUR NEW BEST FRIEND, EH?
NOPE. IT'S ALL THERE.
THOUSAND DOLLAR BILLS, THREE HUNDRED OF THEM. UNMARKED, NONSEQUENTIAL. NOT EVERY DAY I LET SO MUCH GO, BUT A DEAL'S A DEAL.
BUT, "BEST FRIENDS"? IF I WERE YOU, I'D FORGET WE EVER MET. KNOWING ME JUST GETS EVERYONE IN DEEP DOODOO, YOU KNOW?
WELL, NO, BUT I REALLY DON'T CARE TO. ANYWAYS, ENJOY YA NEW HOME, MR. KELLY.
I WILL, MR. JAMBO...
...OR SHOULD I SAY, DEADPOOL WILL.

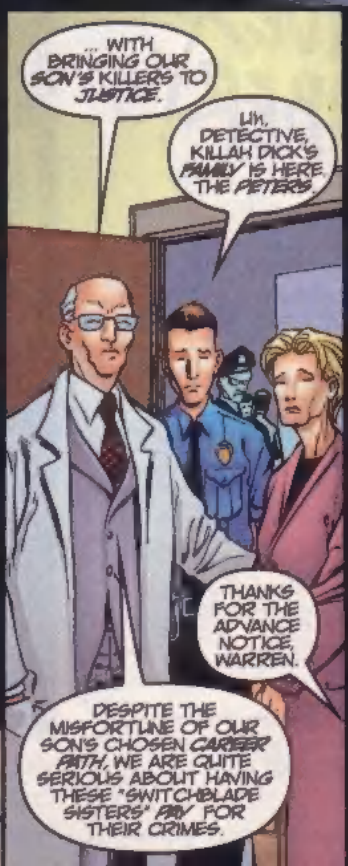
POLICE HEADQUARTERS, DOWNTOWN.
NEW JERSEY
NEW YORK STATE
HEY, HUFF! YOU HEAR WHAT THEY'RE SAYING 'BOUT YOUR CASE ON T.V.?
I DON'T GIVE A PLUMP WHAT THEY'RE SAYING... I GOT ENOUGH TO WORRY ABOUT WITH THE FEDS AND REPORTERS WALKING ALL OVER ME.
ONLY REASON THAT REWARD GOT PUMPED UP IS CUZ THEY KILLED A SO-CALLED ROCK STAR.
YEAH, BUT, ARNOLD YOU GOTTA--
I AIN'T GOTTA DO NUTHIN', LISTEN, WARREN, THAT KILLDICK GUY MADE THE REWARD GO UP TO A HUNDRED GRAND...
...SO NOW I GOT MY HANDS FULL WITH AMATEUR BOUNTY HUNTERS EVERYWHERE! IT'S A CITY OF BOBBY FATS!
THAT'S BOBA FETT, ARNOLD YOU KNOW, FROM STAR WARS! I HEARD UNDER NEATH HIS MASK--OH WAIT, HERE IT IS! LISTEN TO THIS...
DEATH
...POLICE FORENSICS CONFIRMED THAT THE STAB WOUNDS SHOW THAT AT LEAST TWO ATTACKERS STABBED THE VICTIM SIMULTANEOUSLY.
INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH, INSIDE SOURCES REPORT THAT PERFUME AND HAIR SAMPLES HAVE LED POLICE TO BELIEVE THAT THE CRIMES COULD HAVE BEEN COMMITTED BY TWO YOUNG WOMEN. AND EYEWITNESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT KILLER DICK LEFT THE RITZ CLUB WITH TWO YOUNG LADIES THAT NIGHT.
AS OF YET, CHIEF INVESTIGATOR ARNOLD HUFF STILL HAS NO LEADS IN THE CASE THAT SOME ARE CALLING "THE SWITCH-BLADE SISTER SLAYINGS." ALSO IN THE NEWS...
EVER SEE THAT MOVIE, DETECTIVE HUFF? SWITCHBLADE SISTERS? YOU THINK MAYBE IT WAS ONE OF THOSE GIRLS WHO KILLED THESE PEOPLE? WOULDN'T THAT BE WEIRDY WOULDN'T IT?
GEEZ, ENOUGH ALREADY. MAKE YOURSELF USEFUL AND GO GET SOME CHINESE FOOD. I'M STARVING.
AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, GET SOME FRESH AIR...
...YOU'RE STARTING TO SOUND MENTAL.

...RECORD COMPANY AS WELL AS FAMILIES OF THE VICTIMS HAVE PLEDGED $100,000 FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE CAPTURE OF THE SWITCHBLADE SISTERS.
HELLO? WHO'S THIS?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "WHO'S THIS?" IT'S VERONICA, SILLY... YOU CALLED ME, WADE.
OH, YEAH, VERONICA! WHAT'S DOING?
OH, JUST GETTING A LITTLE REST... JUST FINISHED A SHIFT AT THE HOSPITAL.
I'M STILL IN MY NURSE'S UNIFORM, YOU KNOW... JUST WAITING TO TEND TO A NEEDY PATIENT...
I'M YOUR MAN! NOW I'M IN PAIN!
I CAN TELL... SO WHY THE CALL, HERO?
DOING ANYTHING TONIGHT?
TONIGHT? SORRY, HANDSOME, BUT I HAVE OTHER PLANS THIS EVENING.
DON'T THINK I CAN FIT YOU IN.
WELL, THEN, HOW ABOUT WE CATCH UP LATER AND--
BYYEEEEEEE.
BUT WAIT! I WANTED TO--
KLIK

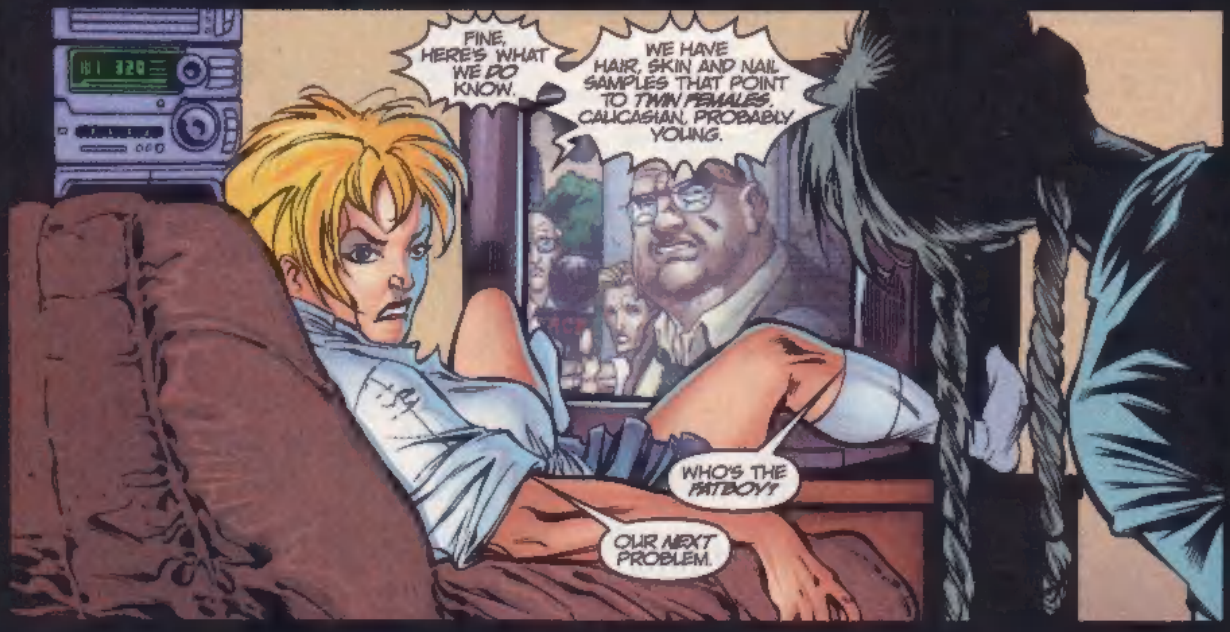

HMPH. THIS IS GETTING WAY TOO COMPLICATED. WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HIM? HE'S SO EASILY... MANIPULATED THESE DAYS. NOT THE KILLER MERCENARY NAMED DEADPOOL I LIKED TO KNOW.
STILL, HE IS MYSTERIOUS, AND THAT'S WHAT I ALWAYS LIKED ABOUT WADE.
BUT HOW DOES A GIRL WHO CAN BE ANYONE... CAN CHANGE INTO ANYONE... BE THE SOMEONE WHO HE WANTS TO KEEP?
HOW DOES A CAT KEEP WHAT SHE'S ALREADY CAUGHT?

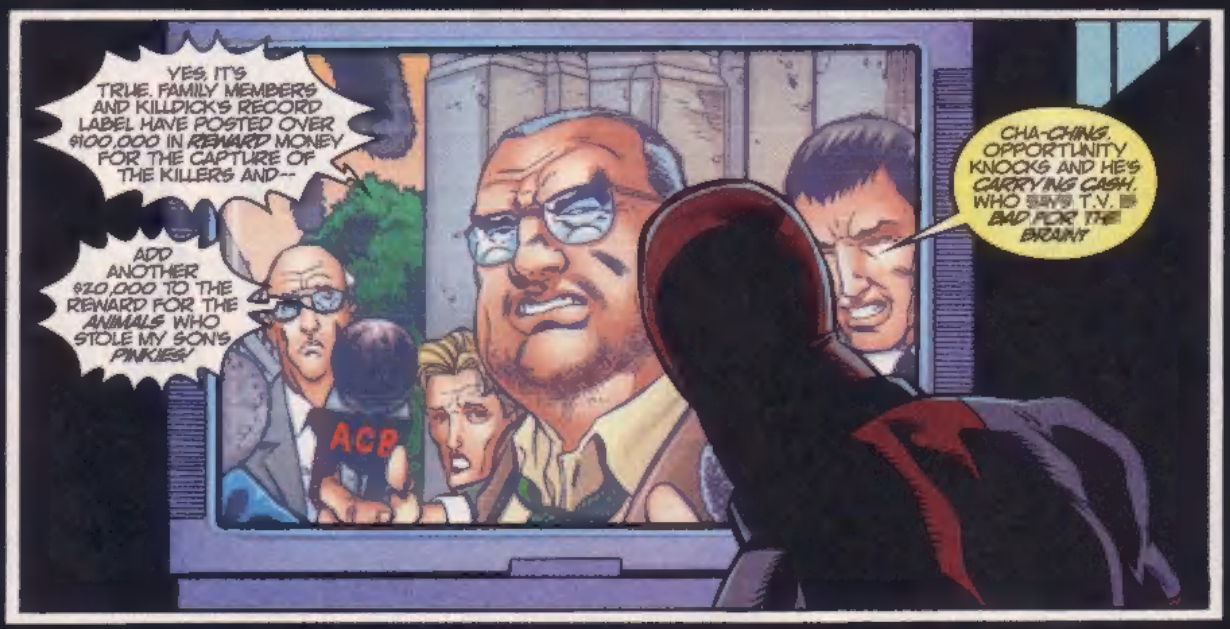

"CURIOUSER AND CURIOUSER," SAID THE COPYCAT.

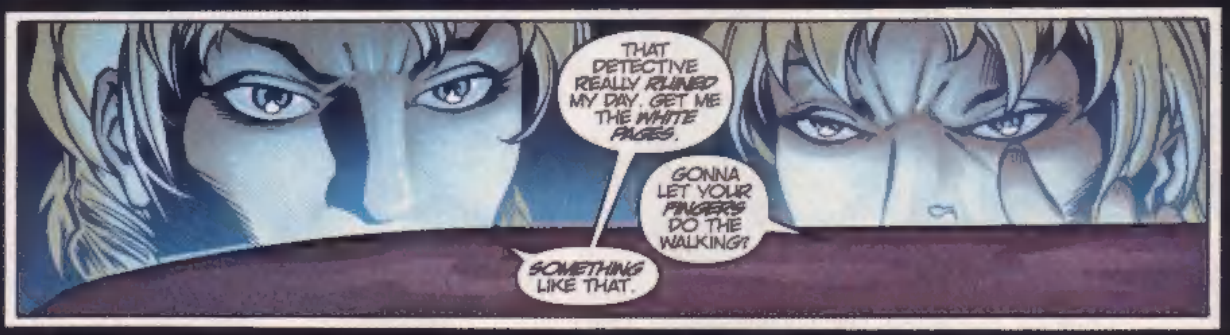
YOU KNOW YOU GOTTA TURN A TRICK...
...FOR THE SUPER PIMP, KILLER DICK.
OH, YEAH, YOU'RE IN MY CLASS...
...SO TURN AROUND, BABY, AND LET ME SMACK THAT
WITH LYRICS LIKE THAT I'M SURPRISED NOBODY KILLED HIM SOONER.
KILLER STRIKES
WE MIGHT SHARE DIFFERENT MUSICAL TASTES, DETECTIVE HUFF, BUT I HOPE THAT DOESN'T INTERFERE...


...WITH BRINGING OUR SON'S KILLERS TO JUSTICE.
UH, DETECTIVE, KILLAH DICK'S FAMILY IS HERE. THE PETERS.
THANKS FOR THE ADVANCE NOTICE, WARREN.
DESPITE THE MISFORTUNE OF OUR SON'S CHOSEN CAREER PATH, WE ARE QUITE SERIOUS ABOUT HAVING THESE "SWITCHBLADE SISTERS" PAY FOR THEIR CRIMES.

LOOK, Uhh... MR. PETERS, MRS PETERS... WE BOTH WANT THE SAME THING, BUT... WELL, I...
DON'T WORRY, DETECTIVE, MY SON WAS A RAPPER IN A HEAVY METAL/REGGAE BAND. WE ARE USED TO BEING TREATED DIFFERENTLY.
BUT WHY CAN'T WE SEE OUR SON'S BODY?
UH, RIGHT... NO ONE'S TOLD YOU YET, EH?
YOUR SON'S BODY. IT WAS--
MUTILATED. YES, WE HEARD IT ON THE NEWS.
WELL, THAT WAS THE STORY THAT WE TOLD THE MEDIA. IT WAS A LITTLE WORSE THAN THAT. LISTEN, YOU THINK WE CAN PICK THIS UP TOMORROW?
OF COURSE, DETECTIVE, PERHAPS IT'S BEST THAT WE DON'T KNOW EVERYTHING. MY WIFE'S STILL IN A BIT OF SHOCK.
NO PROBLEM, MR. PETERS. LET'S TALK IN THE A.M. AND GET YOUR WIFE OUTSIDE.
DETECTIVE FLUFFY IS IT TRUE THAT KILLER DICK'S FINGERS WERE CHOPPED OFF?
WERE THEY REALLY SERVED BY A HOT DOG VENDOR IN MIDTOWN MANHATTAN?
I KNEW IT! GET AWAY FROM US, YOU VULTURES! SHOW SOME RESPECT FOR THE FAMILY! MY ONLY COMMENT IS "NO COMMENT." NOW GET LOST!
JUST GIVE US AN UPDATE TO WARN THE PUBLIC!
HOT... DOG... VENDOR...! OH, MY POOR SON.


FINE, HERE'S WHAT WE DO KNOW.
WE HAVE HAIR, SKIN AND NAIL SAMPLES THAT POINT TO TWIN FEMALES, CAUCASIAN, PROBABLY YOUNG.
WHO'S THE FATBOY?
OUR NEXT PROBLEM.

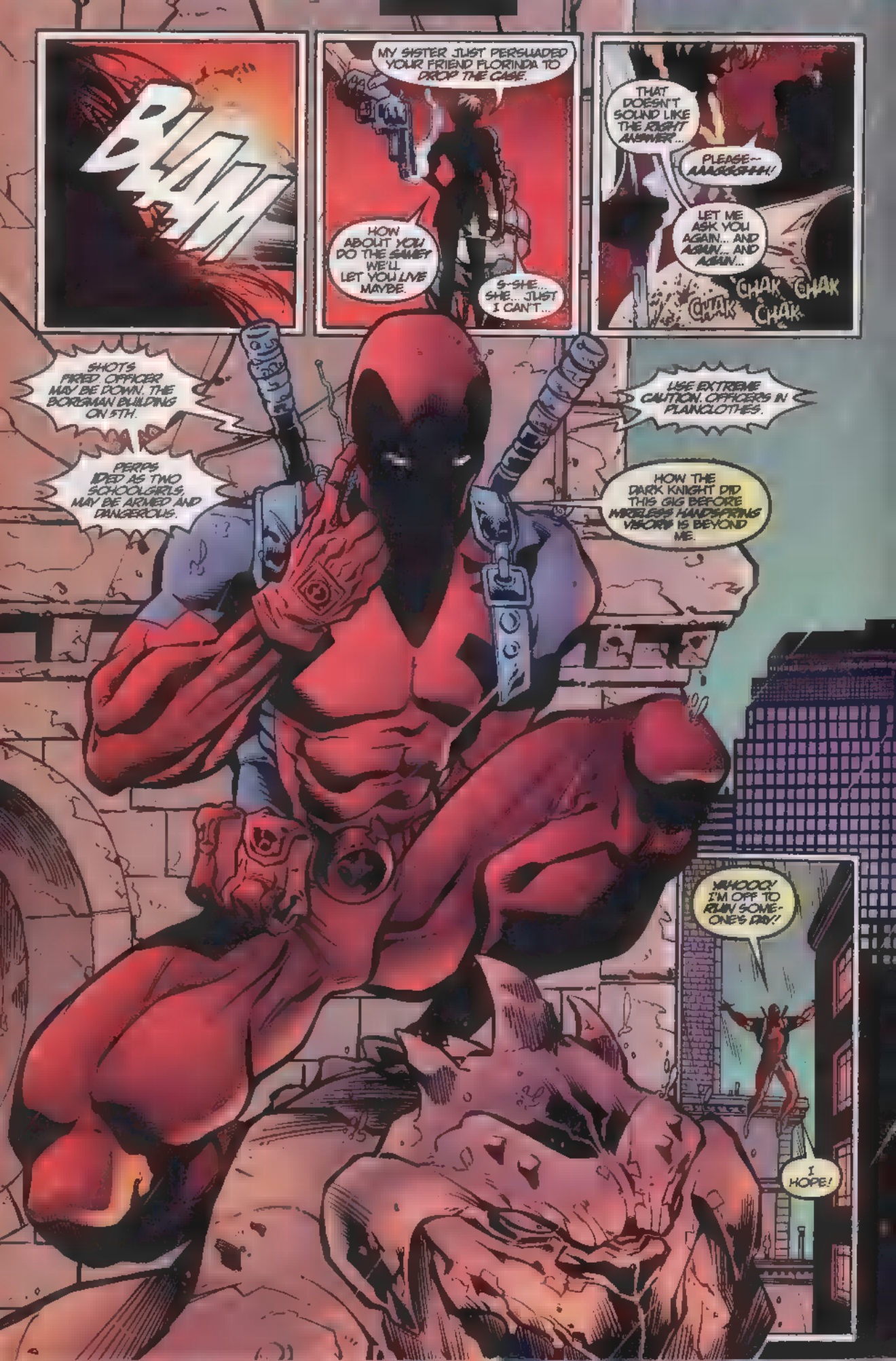

YES, IT'S TRUE. FAMILY MEMBERS AND KILLDICK'S RECORD LABEL HAVE POSTED OVER $100,000 IN REWARD MONEY FOR THE CAPTURE OF THE KILLERS AND--
ADD ANOTHER $20,000 TO THE REWARD FOR THE ANIMALS WHO STOLE MY SON'S PINKIES!
CHA-CHING. OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS AND HE'S CARRYING CASH. WHO SAYS T.V. IS BAD FOR THE BRAIN?
ACB


THAT DETECTIVE REALLY RUINED MY DAY. GET ME THE WHITE PAGES.
GONNA LET YOUR FINGERS DO THE WALKING?
SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

REWARD. KILLER CHICKS. REWARD. KILLER CHICKS. REWARD.
TIME TO GEAR UP AND BOOGIE! ONE HUNDRED LARGE, WOOHOO! NOW I CAN GET THAT PLAYSTATION 2!

"I HOPE OUR CARS DON'T GET TOWED."
"SHHH. STAY SHARP, MARY. THIS BUILDING IS JUST FULL OF COPS!"
"IT'S LIKE A POLICE DORM, GRACE... HOW SAD."
"WE'RE ACTUALLY DOING THIS GUY A FAVOR."
KNOCK KNOCK
HI, DETECTIVE HUFF! BOY, YOU'RE EVEN CUTER IN PERSON THAN ON T.V.! WANNA BUY SOME COOKIES?
HOW'D YOU--
OOOF
WHAM
DING DONG! MOVE IT, FATTY! I'M NOT GETTING ANY YOUNGER!
YOU'D THINK THAT SOMEONE AS PUBLIC AS YOURSELF WOULD HAVE AN UNLISTED NUMBER.
SCALPEL?
SCALPEL
TURN YOURSELVES IN AND I CAN GET YOU SOME HELP! YOU DON'T KNOW THE TROUBLE YOU'RE IN!
I'M IN TROUBLE?
WHAT ABOUT YOU? MAKING A LIVING BY CHASING DOWN NICE SCHOOL GIRLS LIKE US, PERVERT!?
I BET YOU HAVE PICTURES OF GIRLS IN YOUR BEDROOM DRAWERS...
...YOU MAKE ME SOOO SICK! ALL OF YOU! JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE BIGGER THAN US!
CHUNK!
WHAT ARE YOU-- AAGHHH!!

YOU SHOULD REALLY WATCH YOUR WEIGHT, DETECTIVE. YOU KNOW YOU'RE LIABLE TO DIE YOUNG!
YOU GOT A PROBLEM, GIRL? THEN KILL ME ALREADY. JUST DON'T TORTURE ME ABOUT MY WEIGHT... THAT'S MY EX-WIFE'S JOB.
HERE'S THE THING, DETECTIVE...
KILLER DICK WAS JUST A JERK. HE HURT MY SISTER'S FEELINGS. HE DESERVED WHAT HE GOT, JUST LIKE ALL THE OTHERS.
FREEZE, BRITNEY!
FLORINDA, BE CAREFUL! THERE'S TWO OF THEM!
WHAT'S WITH ALL THE "BRITNEY" CRAP?
TWO--?
TWO. ME AND MY SISTER. ONE, TWO.
NOW HERE'S ANOTHER NUMBER FOR YOUR COLLECTION: 357.
THAT SHOULD BE AN EASY ONE TO REMEMBER. SAY G'NIGHT, SKANK.
ARNOLD...


BLAM
MY SISTER JUST PERSUADED YOUR FRIEND FLORINDA TO DROP THE CASE.
HOW ABOUT YOU DO THE SAME? WE'LL LET YOU LIVE MAYBE.
S-SHE... SHE... JUST I CAN'T...
THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE THE RIGHT ANSWER...
PLEASE-- AAAGGGHH!!
LET ME ASK YOU AGAIN... AND AGAIN... AND AGAIN...
CHAK CHAK CHAK CHAK
SHOTS FIRED. OFFICER MAY BE DOWN. THE BORGMAN BUILDING ON 5TH.
PERPS IDED AS TWO SCHOOLGIRLS, MAY BE ARMED AND DANGEROUS.
USE EXTREME CAUTION. OFFICERS IN PLAINCLOTHES.
HOW THE DARK KNIGHT DID THIS GIG BEFORE WIRELESS HANDSFREE VISORS IS BEYOND ME.
MWOOOO! I'M OFF TO RUIN SOME-ONE'S DAY!
I HOPE!

BELLEVIEW MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
GOT A MINUTE, CHIEF?
IT'S DETECTIVE.
DETECTIVE, THEN. WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO DID THIS TO YOU?
I GOT WORKED OVER BY THE BRITNEY SPEARS TWINS.
SO YOU SAW THEM? AND THEY'RE DEFINITELY TWIN SISTERS?
NO. THEY'RE JUST AMAZINGLY SIMILAR STRANGERS.
I'M HERE TO HELP, DETECTIVE.
NO. YOU'RE HERE FOR THE REWARD. DON'T TRY TO B.S. ME.
WELL, TRUE. IT IS BIG MONEY
BUT IF YOU TELL ME HOW TO FIND THEM, I PROMISE TO BE REALLY, REALLY UNPLEASANT TO THEM WHEN I FIND THEM.
YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT TORTURE, KID?
I LEARNED AT THE HANDS OF THE MASTERS. LITERALLY.

OKAY, GRACE. HE'S STARTING TO MOVE. HE'S BIG, SO BE CAREFUL.
DON'T WORRY, MARY. I HAVE A LITTLE SOMETHING THAT EVENS OUT OUR HEIGHT DIFFERENCE.
I JUST WANT TO KNOW WHO HE IS.
"HE'S HEADING FOR THE EXIT TO THE ROOF!"
"OKAY, I'LL MEET YOU UP THERE. AND DON'T SHOOT ME."
SO, I'M THINKING, WILL HE LIKE THE NURSES UNIFORM?
WHA--? A SUPER HERO? WHY WOULD A SUPER HERO BE AFTER US?

AH, GEEZ... NOT AGAIN...

OKAY, I GOT HEALING [redacted] THIS HURTS [redacted] MAN, I HATE THAT.
SLLLICE!
GRACE! [redacted] I [redacted] YOU!
MARY! I [redacted] DOWN [redacted] THE [redacted]
BUT [redacted] ROOF... I THOUGHT WE...
[redacted] TO CHANGE PLANS. [redacted] TOO [redacted] HURRY DOWN!
SUPER HERO HANDBOOK, CHAPTER ONE: "WHEN FALLING OFF BUILDINGS IN NEW YORK, FLAGPOLES ARE USUALLY WITHIN REACH...
"...GRAB ONE."

GOTCHA!
TH-TH-THIS M-M-M-MAKES M-M-M-MY V-V-V-VOICE... V-VIBRATE.
KRAAK
THANK GOODNESS I WAS WORRIED ABOUT HOW I WAS GOING TO GET DOWN FROM HERE!
ALL I GET IS A FAST MOUTH AND DAZZLING GOOD LOOKS! I THINK I'D RATHER HAVE THE POWER TO...
KRUNCH
FLY
SKIDDDDDDDDDD
AGGGGGHH! THAT'S GONNA LEAVE A MARK.
SUGH! MY LEGENDARY HEALING FACTOR IS GONNA HAVE TO WORK OVERTIME TONIGHT...
SCREECH
Huh--?! HOW DID SHE GET DOWN HERE SO FAST?

Oh, THAT'S RIGHT. TWINS.
Uh, GIRLS? I DON'T SUPPOSE WE COULD DISCUSS THIS?
SPLIT THE RANSOM AND SPEND SOME TIME IN A HOT TUB? Y'KNOW, ALL THREE OF US?
VA ROOOMMM!
VA ZOOOMMM!
I'LL TAKE THAT AS A "NO."

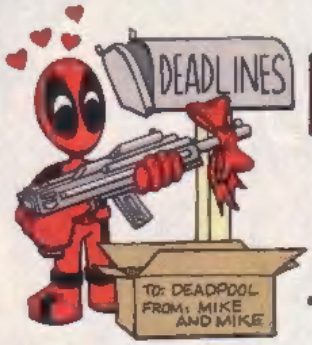
FLOOR IT, MARY! WE'RE GOING TO KILL OURSELVES A SUPER HERO!
KKKKRUNCH
UHHHHH... MY GROIN...

KKRRRRRRRRRRR

RRRRRRRAAASSSS

NO... GRACE... I FORGOT TO BUCKLE MY...
SSSSSHHH!

HISSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS
TINKLE
PLINK
CLUNK
NEXT ISSUE:
DEATH AND PAIN



DEADLINES

MIKE RAICHT ASSISTANT EDITOR
MIKE MARTS EDITOR
JOE QUESADA CHIEF

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IF YOU DON'T WANT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS PRINTED, PLEASE LET US KNOW. LETTERS MAY BE EDITED FOR CONTENT AND LENGTH. MARK E-MAIL "OKAY TO PRINT"

Dead DEADPOOL gang,

I love DEADPOOL! Always have, always will. He's my favorite Marvel character and every time I read one of his comics, I thank the comic gods that Rob Liefeld created him. Joe Kelly's the one who made me a diehard fan, though. And then Christopher Priest's DEADPOOL came along ... well, his was different. But I must admit after all these issues, I can honestly say DEADPOOL has found a home with Buddy Scalera and Jimmy Palmiotti.

I can't really explain the chemistry these two have brought to the title. I had my doubts that a tracer (I mean inker ... just kidding, Jimmy!) and a web site coordinator could pull it off, but they did.

And I haven't felt this good about reading DEADPOOL since the team of Joe Kelly and Ed McGuiness. Thank you, guys, for letting these two beginning writers handle my comic icon.

Anthony "Poolboy" L
(address withheld by request)

We're glad you like the book and its creative team, Anthony. Jimmy (who actually did some writing work on *Painkiller Jane* and *Ash*) might be just a tracer and Buddy (whose first official writing work came in the now classic DEADPOOL #49) might just be an internet geek, but they sure do know how to put a story together!

Mike & Mike,

Hey! Wazzup with the dead guys!

I just wanted to say a couple things:

1. Totally keep up the good work, guys, great comic.

2. Second, it's my fault that I don't read every issue that comes out, so I was just wondering, um ... in DEADPOOL #50, what was with the sudden switch from the main storyline to the two teenage girls knocking off the Fed Ex guy (or whoever he was)?

3. And last but not least, what's with the women never writing in? I mean are there any other girls out there that read DEADPOOL, or what?

Barah
Alberta, Canada

1. We'll keep up the good work as long as you keep buying the book, Barah! Hee Haw!

2. What do you mean you don't read every issue of DEADPOOL?! Oh, we get it, you're trying to be funny! Hahahaha. Ha. Ha. Well, even though Barah's joking, some of you might have missed the subplot we've been developing that involves the two schoolgirl killers. But if you've read this issue, then you know who we're talking about. The Mercy Sisters are nuts! Could Deadpool be their next victim?!

3. DEADPOOL has plenty of female readers, Barah ... they just don't write in as much as the guys! So if there are any ladies out there who would like to write in, DEADLINES would really appreciate hearing from you!

Dear Deadlines,

When Priest's departure was announced, I was devastated. I had looked forward to years of Priest's trademark storytelling and humor, and so I was disappointed to see him go away after a mere eleven months on DEADPOOL.

Worse yet, Jimmy's ideas frightened me. It wasn't the fact that Jimmy had never written stories before ... that didn't bother me. I would never judge a person like that. What really angered me was that Jimmy would be taking away all the stuff that had defined DEADPOOL for me: the knowing winks to the readers, the off-the-wall humor, the more fantastic elements (such as space travel and encountering Loki, the Norse trickster). In his interviews, Jimmy said that he was going to do darker crime stories — and it scared the heck out of me. I picked up his first issue, read it, and cried. I cried.

I dropped the book. It was gone. It was all gone.

Then DEADPOOL #50 arrived on the racks. I saw the cover, and I laughed. It was a good joke, and I laughed. I fretted over this for a moment, and picked up #49 and #50. And they were good ... WOW.

I think that Buddy Scalera was a good addition. The jokes are back, somewhat toned-down, but they're back. The dialogue is good again, it feels smooth, as though there's a "flow" to it. Michael Lopez's art was excellent and funny, although the bar scene where Deadpool and the other guy fell through the floorboards was a little muddled. Darick Robertson is doing some good stuff with #50. And while this is not the DEADPOOL I fell in love with, it's a pretty good comic.

I like the focus on Wade being a mercenary. This wasn't done too often during Priest's run, but that was because Wade was caught up in his own adventures. I like how we're seeing the character do his job, and I'm also pleased that the hero/villain complications have also returned to the book, although in an altered form. Again, this isn't the screwball storytelling that drew me in, but this is a good comic. And while I really, really miss Christopher Priest's stories, I think that the changes to the book, in the end, worked out.

DEADPOOL is still a very funny book. With the slightly lower level of humor, however, the more serious parts of the book have a greater legitimacy to them than they have in the past, such as the scene where Deadpool pulled off his mask for "Poolboy" to see. The ideas are very interesting, from mocking the idea of a sidekick to Deadpool dating. Deadpool is both a good guy and a bad guy, and the way it's being handled is a little simpler than how Priest did it. But I think it's the right way. The book is accessible to new readers, and entertaining for old readers. The focus on Wade's jobs is a simpler approach to the character, and it makes the book easier to read.

So ... I like it. I think that there should be a permanent artist (and it looks like stellar Georges Jeanty is the guy!), but other than that, DEADPOOL is a funny, entertaining comic again.

Ibrahim Haj
Toronto, Ontario

We're glad you gave the series a second chance, Ibrahim. Transition of creative teams can be a bit jarring to some longtime readers, but we guarantee you that changes wouldn't have been made if we didn't feel that it would benefit all readers in the long run. And the fact that Buddy and Jimmy's last few stories have "clicked" with most of our fans is proof of that statement! Poolboy, the Mercy Sisters, and even an upcoming skull-wearing vigilante are all great additions to the DEADPOOL cast ... and we have our two writers to thank for it.

Mixing in the humor with the serious moments should be what DEADPOOL is all about, Ibrahim. And we hope that you and all our fans like the direction this book has taken.

And just to keep you all in the loop, Georges Jeanty is hard at work on pages for DEADPOOL #54 as we speak ... and they are going to blow you away! So, until next time ...

MIKE & MIKE